Road, Kanata, ON K2M 2C3, Canada. Make it as easy on Ross as possible — format the floppy before you send it.

Desktop Color Recovery

Q. My Performa's desktop patterns, in the General Controls control panel, have lost their color! Ever since my Mac crashed while I was changing my desktop background pattern, all of my color patterns are black-and-white. How can I get back my color patterns?

Mark G. Cichra
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BOB: Try the easiest solution first: Zap your PRAM (parameter RAM) by holding down Command-Option-P-R while starting up your Mac. Parameter RAM is a small part of your Mac's RAM that remembers settings such as time, monitor bit depth, and desktop patterns while your Mac is turned off.

ANDY: You might also try opening the Monitors control panel, switching to Grays/Black & White, clicking on any desktop pattern in General Controls, and then returning to the Monitors control panel and clicking on the color depth you want. Through various misadventures, your Mac can get confused about what the proper desktop pattern is supposed to be. When that happens, it switches to black-and-white until the aforementioned Monitors control-panel procedure slaps it back to its senses.

BOB: If neither of these methods work, you'll have to resort to the Apple Restore program, which came with the Performa, to restore your System file and General Controls control panel from the backup you made when you received your Performa.

What? You didn't follow the manual's instructions to create a backup? You're in deep stuff. Since Performas don't come with system-software disks, you'll have to beg, borrow, or steal copies of the System file and General Controls file from someone else's copy of System 7.0.1p to replace yours.

Newton Correction

ANDY: Allan Marcus, of Atomic Software, offered a couple of corrections to my answer on how to reclaim wasted space from your Newton's memory heap ("Newton Memory Lapses," September '94, page 162).

First, his excellent heap-management utility, RemoveIt!, is actually a $5 piece of shareware and not freeware as I originally reported. Second, although my method does indeed work, he offered an embarrassingly simpler one: Do a complete backup, and then press the Reset button while holding down the power button. This wipes clean your Newt's memory, including any detritus from using applications. After a restore, you will be right as rain — and you might even wind up with some more free heap space.

You can find the programs referenced in this article in the MacUser and ZiffNet/Mac areas on CompuServe and eWorld. See page 4 for instructions on accessing ZiffNet/Mac.

TIPS / Internet

SENDING MAIL

Here are a couple of solid guidelines for sending e-mail in the wild and woolly world of the Net. Internet addresses typically take the form user name@domain name.top-level-domain name, where *domain name* represents the service provider and the top-level domain is the type of organization — for example, in FredMertz@aol.com, *com* stands for *commercial* concerns. Other common top-level domains you may want to reach include *gov* (government), *edu* (universities), *mil* (military), *net* (network), and *org* (nonprofit organizations).

SERVICE	FROM THE INTERNET	OUT TO THE INTERNET
America Online	username@aol.com	Type user@domain
AppleLink	username@applelink.apple.com	Type user@domain@internet#
AT&T Mail	username@attmail.com	Type internet!domain!user [no ending exclamation point]
Bitnet	username%site.bitnet@gateway	Type user@domain or user%domain@gateway
BIX	username@dcibix.das.net	Type user@domain
CompuServe	userID@compuserve.com	Type INTERNET:user@domain
Delphi	username@delphi.com	Type Internet user@domain
eWorld	username@eworld.com	Type user@domain
Fidonet	firstname.lastname@p#.f#.n#.z#.fidonet.org	Type username@machine.site.domain ON 1:1/31
GEnie	mailaddress@genie.geis.com	Type user@domain
MCI Mail	userID@mcimail.com*	At the To: prompt, type username (EMS) At the EMS: prompt, type INTERNET At the Mbx: prompt, type user@domain
Prodigy	serviceID@prodigy.com	Using Mail Manager, select Internet Message and type user@domain

*Three MCI Mail address types can receive mail from the Internet: username (Ethel_Mertz@mcimail.com), userID (1234567@mcimail.com), or a combination of both (Ethel_Mertz/1234567@mcimail.com).

Most on-line services accept and use this address format (see table at left), but the formats for CompuServe and Fidonet require further explanation.

To send mail to someone on CompuServe from the Net, use a user ID instead of a user name. Also, substitute a period for the comma that comes in the middle of the user ID (for instance, 72241.1036@compuserve.com).

To send messages from CompuServe out over the Net, simply add INTERNET: to the beginning of the net address; an example is INTERNET:LucyCarmichael@macuser.ziff.com (you no longer have to type a > symbol before INTERNET:).

To send a message to Fidonet, you must write the recipient's address backward and insert one-letter codes. For example, Joe Blow is at zone 1, net 113, node 718, point 2. Therefore, 1:113/718.2 is Joe's Fidonet address. To reach Joe from the Net, type Joe.Blow@p2.f718.n113.z1.fidonet.org.— do note that *node* is abbreviated as *f*, not *n*, which is the abbreviation for *net*.

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